

What is Claimed Is:

- 1 1. A fiber stripper system, comprising:
- 2 A. a handheld housing having a chamber configured to hold a volume of pressurized
- 3 combustible gas, wherein the gas is releasable from the chamber via a gas release
- 4 valve;
- 5 B. a gas path having a first end configured to receive released gas from the gas valve
- 6 and a second end configured to couple to an output nozzle configured to direct
- 7 energy toward at least one fiber;
- 8 C. an igniter configured to combust the released gas at said output nozzle; and
- 9 D. a filter disposed between the output nozzle and the at least one fiber and
- 10 configured to radiate heat in the direction of the fiber, while preventing a
- 11 combustion flame from contacting the at least one fiber.

- 1 2. The system of claim 1, further comprising:
- 2 E. a bridge coupled to the housing and configured to maintain the at least one fiber at
- 3 a fixed distance from the filter.

- 1 3. The system of claim 1, further comprising:
- 2 E. an actuator operatively coupled to the gas valve and the igniter.

- 1 4. The system of claim 1, wherein the gas comprises butane, propane, or some combination
- 2 thereof.

- 1 5. The system of claim 1, wherein the filter is a metal wire mesh.

- 1 6. The system of claim 1, further comprising:
- 2 E. a cleaver configured to cut the fiber.

- 1 7. The system of claim 1, further comprising:

2 E. an air source configured to generate an air burst in the direction of the fiber to the  
3 filter.

1 8. The system of claim 1, wherein the heat is at least about 700 degrees Celsius.

1 9. A fiber stripper system, comprising:

2 A. a handheld mechanical stripper configured to strip a fiber;

3 B. a cleaver, coupled to the mechanical stripper; and

4 C. at least one actuator operatively coupled to the mechanical stripper and to the  
5 cleaver.

1 10. The system of claim 9, further comprising:

2 D. a fluid pump configured to direct a burst of fluid to the fiber.